

Remarks and Arguments

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 17 have been amended to proper Markush format.

Various amendments to certain claims have been made for readability and punctuation.

Claims 12-15 and 19-21 have been canceled.

No new matter has been added as a result of the present claim amendments, each of which is made without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any subject matter canceled as a result of the present claim amendments in future prosecution, either in this application or in one or more continuing applications.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without conceding the merits of this rejection, Applicant has canceled claims 13-15. As such, this rejection is rendered moot, and Applicant respectfully requests its withdrawal.

Double Patenting

Claim 12 was objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1. Without conceding the merits of this rejection, Applicant has canceled claim 12. As such, this rejection is rendered moot, and Applicant respectfully requests its withdrawal.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Claims 13-15 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Without conceding the merits of this rejection, Applicant has canceled claims 13-15 and 19-21, rendering this rejection moot.

Applicant thus respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-9 and 11-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 13-15 and 19-20 have been canceled without prejudice, rendering this rejection moot as it applies to these claims.

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 17 were rejected for reciting Markush groups preceded by the term "comprising" instead of "consisting of." Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 11, and 17 to recite "consisting of," rendering this rejection moot.

Claim 8 was rejected for lacking a period at the end of the claim. Applicant has amended claim 8 to include a period at the end, rendering this rejection moot.

Applicant thus respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In light of the present amendments and arguments, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests a notice to that effect. If the Examiner feels that it would further prosecution or expedite allowance of the present case, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 612-766-2071.

Applicant believes no fees are due with this filing. Please apply any charges, however, or credit any overpayments, to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 15665-0009US1.

Respectfully submitted,

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